

FACT SHEET
OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

PROJECT NAME AND STATE: Buffalo Bayou and Tributaries, Addicks Dam and Reservoir, Barker Dam and Reservoir, Texas

AUTHORIZATION: House Document 456, 75th Congress, 2nd Session 1938 and modified by the 1954 Flood Control Act.

<u>SUMMARIZED FINANCIAL DATA:</u>	<u>O&M</u>
Estimated Federal Cost	\$2,590,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost:	\$ 0
Total Estimated Project Cost	\$2,590,000

Allocation thru FY 2002	N/A
Allocation for FY 2003	\$3,072,000
Budget Request for FY 2004	\$2,590,000
Balance to Complete After FY 2004	N/A
Amount that could be Used in FY 2004	\$2,590,000

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION: The project is located on Buffalo Bayou and Mayde Creek on the west side of the City of Houston, in Harris and Fort Bend Counties, Texas. Addicks Dam and Reservoir is an earthen dam 61,166 feet long and 48.5 feet above the Mayde Creek streambed with a storage capacity of 200,840 acre-feet. Barker Dam and Reservoir is an earthen dam 71,960 feet long and 36.5 feet above the Buffalo Bayou streambed with a storage capacity of 209,000 acre-feet. Improvements are designed to control floods in the City of Houston.

PROJECTED OPERATIONS FOR FY 03: Continue operations with project personnel. Finish construction for the road and ramp repairs to the tops of the dams. Award contract for repair of the roller compacted concrete. Continue the flood damage analysis mapping contract. Begin centerline surveys for dam safety assurance. Begin implementing the periodic inspection fixes and recommendations.

PROPOSED OPERATIONS FOR FY 04: Continue operations with project personnel. Finish the flood damage analysis mapping contract. Begin surveys of sediment ranges. Make security improvements. Continue implementing the periodic inspection recommendations.

ISSUES AND OTHER INFORMATION: The reservoirs are in good condition with no evidence of major structural distress that would affect the overall integrity of the project. Since the design and construction of the dams, massive development of lands upstream of the reservoirs has increased flows into the reservoirs that further aggravate the flooding problem. The District completed a Reconnaissance Report for a Section 216 study in October 1995 discussing the impacts of increased runoff

and damaging effects to the reservoir. The report recommended no economically feasible solution.

The project underwent a major rehabilitation effort, which was completed in FY 91 under the Dam Safety Assurance Program. Embankments were raised and armor plated to protect against possible overtopping and to meet modern safety standards.

Lands within the reservoirs are being leased to the City of Houston and Harris County for the purpose of park development. Other out-grants within the reservoirs, in addition to the large number of adjacent landowners in subdivisions surrounding the reservoirs, add a burden to the surveillance requirements. Harris County has developed Bear Creek Park in Addicks Reservoir and George Bush Park in Barker Reservoir. The City of Houston has developed Cullen Park and Langham Creek Park in Addicks Reservoir. The Fifth U.S. Army is leasing a portion of Barker Reservoir to be used as a local training area for Army Reserve and National Guard Units in the Houston area.

The discovery of the endangered plant, Prairie Dawn (*Hymenoxys texana*), in the two reservoirs is significantly altering many of the proposed recreation facilities and thoroughfares proposed by the local governments having leases within the reservoirs. Land, which is not developed or designated for other purposes, is being leased for cattle grazing.

The project is estimated to have prevented damages totaling \$1,660,691,000 through September 2002. The Project prevented \$23,300,000 in damages during FY02 alone.

LOCAL SPONSOR: N/A

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators **Cornyn** and **Hutchison**,
Congressmen **Culberson** (TX-7), **Jackson-Lee** (TX-18), **DeLay** (TX-22), **Bell** (TX-25),
Green (TX-29), **Carter** (TX-31),

DATE: February 3, 2003